(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether various State Governments and Co-operative Banks have represented against such a decision;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Vide the Finance Act, 2006, the benefit under Section SOP of the Income-tax Act has been withdrawn for all cooperative banks other than Primary Agricultural Credit Societies and Primary Cooperative Agricultural & Rural Development Banks.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received for restoration of tax benefit under section SOP of the Income-tax Act for cooperative banks. After consideration, the request has not been found to be acceptable.

Impact of central excise exemptions on industrial growth in Uttarakhand

1575. SHRI HARISH RAWAT; Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the impact of grant of area based central excise exemptions on the industrial growth in Uttarakhand;

(b) how many new units have been set up between 2003 and 2006 in the State; and

(c) what has been the Central excise revenue foregone in the State on this account for the financial year 2004-05,2005-06 and 2006-07?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) According to the data available with the Government, the impact of area based central excise exemption in Uttarkhand in terms of the number of units, investment made and employment generated during 2003 to 2007 (upto September) is as under:

Sl. No.	Details	Total (Including SSI, Medium and Large units)	
		Set up	Proposed to be set up
!.	No. of units set up/proposed to be set up	12334	5192'
2.	Investment made/proposed (Rs. crore)	6848	16862
3.	Employment generated/proposed to be generated	83421	164036

(c) The estimated central excise revenue foregone for operating the exemption in Uttaranchal has been Rs. 132 crore, Rs. 1125 crore for the years 2004-05 and 2005-06 respectively. Estimated central excise revenue foregone for the half-year 2006-07 (till September) is about Rs. 916 crore.

Tax deducted at Source

1576. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central Government employees in Delhi whose income tax was deducted at source last year;